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SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1915.

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1914-1915.

Annus Domini 1914 is over, passing stormily in a red flame of strife and death—death met in conflict on land, on the water, and in the air. For the presage of that lurid setting may we, perhaps, look as of old to the shepherds' foresight of hope for the coming dawn; or are we to see in the flame continued a warning for the days that shall be?

At least we may see a sure message left behind by each member in Death's roll-call. Deep pity must be ours towards all the innocent who fell by no act or desire of their own, standing against their will in the path of blind destruction; but we have other emotions for those who have deliberately given their lives in defence of the ideals of their country. Theirs is a sacrifice made of free choice and set purpose, and it has and must have for us the full significance of sacrifice—which is purification. They have not fought for mere existence, but for their national life; and it is now for the nation as a whole to learn to think of more than mere existence; henceforward we should live—live in the true sense of life, live so that our lives may be a continuous commemoration of their death. So they, being dead, will yet live in our enhanced desire to serve our fellows, even if duty shall demand our lives in time of peace as it has theirs in war for useful service.

That note of the supreme duty of usefulness has been already sounded beyond possibility of forgetting by the great soldier who laid down his life in the mission which he had undertaken in order that he might give greeting to representatives of the nation who revered him. He considered it "the most useful thing he could do." That same spirit, beneath all seeming light-heartedness, has animated not only him, but also the officers and privates of our Army; and

it is the spirit which should animate us as a nation.

In a new largeness of vision granted to us by our great dead let us forget those small, shortsighted attempts at personal gains which have meant getting the better of, rather than bettering, our fellows. The fight against ignorance will be long; it may even again become bloody; but let us see to it that never again shall a representative of any nation dare to tell the people that he has sought their advantage by committing an act which he knew to be wrong.

The question naturally arises at a moment when we are awakening to the fact that we have duties and responsibilities—that we should, in fact, live usefully: How is this usefulness to be achieved?

Such a question may, and must, provoke many answers, dealing with points and details and ways and means. But the basis on which all questions and answers must rest can only be one—and that one basis is thought. Thought is, after all, the ultimate power behind all the forces of destruction and construction; wrong thinking is the precursor of misuse, right thinking the precursor of good use. Thought must be, like sacrifice, beyond and above the personality of self; it must be for the nation and for humanity.

We may now speak of ourselves, of *The Athenæum*, its duties and responsibilities as the organ of this greatest force of all in the world, namely, thought; that claim we can surely advance, with our traditions now covering nearly a century.

Last year we once again made good our right to approach subjects beyond and without the region of literature pure and simple. We published supplements upon sociology, religion, economics, education, and kindred subjects, because we felt it our duty to apply critical thought thereto. That duty will be the more incumbent upon us during 1915, which, whatever else it may be, is bound to be a great year for thought. But to carry out this duty in the best spirit and with the most useful results we need the continuance of what we have always hitherto enjoyed—entire independence, and the co-operation of all for whom we work, and who do or can work for us. We need to be assured that we are free from all commercial or interested bondage; this freedom can only be secured to us by such co-operation. Still more do we need to be in constant, direct, and personal touch with those whom we represent; for thus only can we establish and maintain, as it were, a referendum of thought throughout the community, to which we can appeal on all occasions and on all subjects. Having such a referendum,

and, with it, the full confidence of those who share our ideals, and will share in our work for these, we shall know that we are playing our part—a great part when we consider what are these ideals—in the reshaping of the world of thought.

It is just this reshaping of the world of thought that is the duty now before us all. We have spoken of those who have laid down their lives in defence of what they believed to be right. To these, as to all whose death is of import to the world, is due a monument, but their monument must be greater and more living than all that craft in bronze or marble can compass; it must be nothing less than the world's thought reshapen as with the vision of the artist who sees beyond the boundary of immediate or personal sight; it must be larger than personality, lasting beyond mere impulse, overcoming ignorance. Against what and whom is this great war now waged, save against ignorance and the ignorant? Not merely against the hostile nations who, to our thinking, have turned their eyes away from the light, and have looked upon the dark shadow of power and earthly dominion, but against everything, on our side as on theirs, that has made for ignorance during these many generations. And as we are fighting, every one of us, against ignorance, with the weapons and in the fierce light of war, so when the war is ended—even if all wars are ended—we must continue our fight, even in time of peace, inasmuch as no peace can be of advantage if it is but inactivity.

The Peace that shall come must not be choked by evil, but rather be active against evil, prevailing over ignorance and apathy.

So, even as these others of the nations have given and are giving their lives during the war for ideals, we, seeing in their gift the redemption even of war, must be prepared to give even our lives for our ideals when peace is with us; nor should our ideals, however diverse they may be in form and in expression, make for anything except the reshaping to its ultimate height of the thought that must govern and redeem life, international as well as national, throughout the world.

We have long felt the desirability of co-operation; we now feel that it is indispensable to *The Athenæum* and the work it does and has to do for the world of thought. We have, therefore, drawn up a scheme which will assure the direct co-operation with us of all who read and take an interest in *The Athenæum*; we shall have great pleasure in communicating details to any who will have the kindness to write to us on the subject.

LITERATURE

The City of the Dancing Dervishes, and Other Sketches and Studies from the Near East. By Harry Charles Lukach. (Macmillan & Co., 7s. 6d. net.)

Now that the "unspeakable" Turk seems bent upon fulfilling Gladstone's pious prediction, and promoting his own exodus, "bag and baggage," from Europe, a greater interest accrues to those rich and beautiful, but neglected and impoverished provinces of Asia whence, to adapt the words of the Koran, he came and whither he must return. There are plenty of grave books, almost what Rastignac would call *de livres hydrauliques*, on Asiatic Turkey, such as Mr. Lynch's massive volumes, Dr. Hogarth's elaborate description, the weighty works of Sir W. Mitchell Ramsay and Sir Mark Sykes, the attractive sketches of the late Earl Percy and of Lady Ramsay, and many more. Mr. Lukach's brightly written chapters, chiefly collected or expanded from articles in magazines and newspapers, will perhaps send the inquisitive reader to some of these more solid authorities. The articles are eminently readable and—a rare combination—accurate; for their author knows the Turks at home, and, like all who know them well, he is fond of them. Politics, happily, do not enter into his pages. The nearest approach is when, in an excellent outline of the origin and history of the Caliphate, he expresses the opinion that, by "exploiting the moral power" of the Caliphate, 'Abdu'l-Hamid "left Turkey a greater power than he found it." On the following page, however, he says: "It remains to be seen how far he has been successful." Well, we have seen.

The best chapters deal with Konia and the Mevlevi or Mawlawi dervishes. It is interesting to learn that the present Sultan is a devout lay-brother of this broad-minded order—for the dervishes have lay members like the Third Order of the Franciscans—and that he is "steeped" in the mystic philosophy of Jalālu-d-din. Mr. Lukach learnt this from the Chelebi Efendi, or pontiff of the order, who had lived for a quarter of a century in Constantinople and "was full of praise for the piety of his Imperial fellow-dervish." The dervish orders—not to be confounded with the late Mahdi's followers—are the most tolerant and enlightened element in Islam, and as such are regarded with some suspicion in Egypt by the orthodox, who tell fearful tales of the Bektashis, just as Evangelical clergymen exploit the "horrors" of Roman Catholic convents. These dervish orders are even said to have admitted Christians to membership. The Zikr, the famous rite of the Whirling Dervishes (and in other forms of all Muslims), means "recollection," though it has hardly the force of that word in Catholic practice; it leads by a kind of auto-hypnotism to a condition of spiritual

trance, which begins and ends with startling suddenness. Describing a Zikr at Konia, Mr. Lukach says:—

"A negro lost all control of himself. Throwing off his turban, he beat his head repeatedly and violently against the hard mud floor, while the colour of his face turned from black to an ashy grey. His neighbour clasped him round the shoulders, and soothed him by blowing and spitting in his face. No sooner, however, had he done so than he himself caught the infection, to be calmed in his turn by the now peaceful negro."

In contrast with the scholarly head of the Whirling Dervishes, Mr. Lukach relates some curious traits in the clergy of the Orthodox Church:—

"There are monks in Mount Athos who are men of the world, zealous students of the financial press, which guides them in the Stock Exchange operations to which they are addicted. On the other hand, I have known Abbots in various parts of the Levant whose signatures consist of the imprint of the abbatial thumb.... being strangers to the arts of reading and writing. One Abbot.... was unable so much as to say his prayers, but employed a sort of whipping-boy for the purpose. The Abbot sat in his chair, the boy stood beside him and spouted the prayers, and the Abbot's vicarious [? delegated] devoutness was universally pronounced to be edifying and satisfactory. His brother and successor, the present Abbot, is, however, a man of some culture, having once been a schoolmaster; he makes, moreover, an excellent liqueur."

So often were the Patriarchs of Constantinople deposed or murdered that there used to be a special house reserved for ex-Patriarchs, a sort of residential club, in the island of Prinkipo. Now they usually betake themselves to Mount Athos and the quotations of the Stock Exchange.

Among the other chapters may be noted specially a good selection from the witticisms of Nasru-d-din Khoja, which may be "chestnuts" to the Orientalist, but are probably new to many readers. As Mr. Lukach says, "the Khoja's peculiar charm lies in the fact that he is as foolish as he is wise." The laugh is often against himself, and he is at his best in defeating those who try to "score" off him. George Borrow, amongst others, introduced him to English readers, and, as the bibliography here given informs us, the Khoja's jokes have been translated into Greek, Rumanian, French, German, Persian, Croatian, Hungarian, and Serbian. To this day people invoke his blessing and make offerings at his tomb at Akshehr, where, at his request, a hole has been left through which he may still look at the world he delighted to fool.

Mr. Lukach is so exact in his history, and so careful in his Oriental transliterations, that we are tempted to ask why he retains, quite correctly, the doubled letter in Omayyad, but rejects it in Eyüb and Suni; and to hope that he will not often write such a phrase as "the dervishes processed around." We regret the absence of any index. There are a dozen good photographs, including an excellent one of the Chelebi Efendi.

The Book of the Bayeux Tapestry. Colour Facsimiles, with Introduction and Narrative by Hilaire Belloc. (Chatto & Windus, 10s. 6d. net.)

The most notable feature of Mr. Belloc's book on the Bayeux Tapestry is the reproduction, so distinct and minutely careful as to gain even by examination under a magnifying glass. Mr. Belloc undoubtedly had his heart in the work. Nor does his Introduction lessen this impression; to him the first vision of that wonderful relic was a matter of personal emotion, and it is in this spirit that he has reproduced it and written about it.

But Mr. Belloc's theories do not carry the same conviction. He dates the Tapestry, without any hesitation, nearly fifty years later than the Conquest, and we cannot suppose that experts in general will accept all his reasoning. We may take a few points.

The crowns in the Tapestry ("embroidery" would be, perhaps, the surer title) are, in both cases where they appear, on English heads, and are English crowns such as were in fashion long before the Conquest. We see just such a crown on the head of King Eadgar in the portrait on the charter to Hyde Abbey, 966 A.D. (Cott. MSS. Vesp. A. VIII.); also in the case of Cnut (Book of Grants, Stowe MS. 944); again, in Tiberius, C. VI., an early eleventh-century Psalter of the Winchester School, we see crowns, shoes and seats with cushions, like those in the Tapestry; and angels bearing gonfanons like those borne before William, but larger.

Mr. Belloc's argument about armorial bearings contradicts itself; there is nothing in the Tapestry to show that the bearings of the sort there represented have passed from father to son, as in a later period. On the contrary, they have the look of personal badges, such as were worn by proved men in sign of their proving many generations before the Conquest. Hereward the Wake, for example, was actually tattooed with the great white bear that he killed on the Scottish Border.

This brings us to another point—the animals in the Tapestry. There is no reason to "postdate" it on account of the bears and leopards. There were bears in England, and are still in France. There must have been plenty in the Pyrenees (a few are found even now). Norman knights, even before William's time, were constantly crossing and recrossing the Pyrenees in search of adventure against the Saracens. This again may explain the leopards, well known to the Moorish invaders of Spain, though, for that matter, the Normans had every opportunity of acquiring knowledge of Africa—in the north at least.

Indeed, when we reflect that, besides Sicily, Spain, and Byzantium, the Vikings had some acquaintance even with the further Atlantic and the Black Sea, and that they, and their descendants the Normans were as cosmopolitan in their tastes as in their raids, pilgrimages, and banishments, we may wonder that

the Tapestry is not a complete menagerie of experiences and legends concerning animals. Probably it would have been had more time elapsed between the events it chronicles and their textile record. Wonders were apt to grow with lapse of time in those days.

It is quite possible that the nasals of the helmets—Mr. Belloc makes a great point of these in support of his date—are really an inheritance from the Vikings. We find mention in 'Beowulf' of "masked" helms ("grim helmas"), and actual helmets have been discovered with nasals and cheek-guards: one found at Vandal, North Upland, belonging to the Middle Iron Age (A.D. 400–700), is ornamented with tiny figures of warriors armed with byrnies and boar-crested helmets with nasals. In 'Beowulf' is the line

The boar crest shone over the cheek-guards.

Compare the Anglo-Saxon helm found in the tumulus at Benty Grange with both boar and nasal, as in the Tapestry.

The Great Seal of William in the British Museum shows him dressed as in the Tapestry—sitting in the same kind of chair, and carrying the same kind of sceptre as was borne by Edward the Confessor and Harold. The crown is too much broken to be useful evidence, but it suggests the presence of the four fleurs-de-lis. In any case, the artist who made this seal would belong to the same school as the designer of the Tapestry: the robes are of the same long shape, the cloak is the same semicircle of cloth fastened on the right shoulder with a brooch. On the other hand, when we look at the various seals of William's successors on the English throne, we may well conclude that they are of a later school than that which designed his seal and the Bayeux Tapestry. All this impels us to say of Mr. Belloc's theory that it shows his enthusiasm, but is "not proven."

Eton in the 'Eighties. By Eric Parker. (Smith, Elder & Co., 7s. 6d. net.)

MR. PARKER'S memories of Eton are written with humour and gusto. They will appeal especially to those who were at Eton in the eighties and nineties, but also in no small degree to all public school and 'Varsity men. A host of contemporaries of whom Mr. Parker writes have made their mark since on the river and in the cricket field, and in the larger world as writers, soldiers, or politicians. For since Mr. Parker entered College in the eighties, and began the life of a "tug" in Chamber, which he describes so well, years enough have elapsed to allow his schoolfellows to emerge. Their lives have touched at many points many who are not Etonians, but who will read this book with pleasure on their account. Certainly no Etonian will read—notably, the chapter on the School List—without a feeling of legitimate pride at the number of distinguished names that occur. Mr. Parker's enumerations are not quite complete: Sir Foster Cunliffe, for instance,

has won distinction both as a cricketer and an author.

Each generation of schoolboys changes, and becomes by imperceptible degrees differentiated in manner, dress, language, and mental outlook from its predecessor. Even "Chamber," which might have been deemed, next to College at Winchester, the least mutable of things, has changed since last century, both to outward view and in inward habit. The youth of a more luxurious age will be served. For the history of a great school, therefore, as well as for the delectation of each generation of schoolboys as they grow grey, it is a really considerable matter to have put upon record, in just the intimate, detailed manner that Mr. Parker affects, the memories and experiences of each succeeding generation.

He enables one, too, to see the pros and cons. Those who cry out against the over-organization of games will note the complaint of the young Colleger that he could never get a game of cricket in his time till "after six," when he would play desperately with his comrades till long after dark. They will recognize, on the other hand, the enthusiasm of the author concerning the modern encouragement of Nature-study, as shown by such an approved publication as the 'Eton Nature Study Note-Book.' One can imagine that Mr. Parker, who as a boy spent many a day fishing in Fellows' Pond or bird-nesting in Burnham Beeches, fingered this treasure of modern days with a keen sense of the chances of a later generation of Etonians. For in his own day, he tells us,

"I do not remember the name of any wild animal, bird, tree, flower, butterfly, fish, moth, grub, or insect of any kind whatever, being mentioned by any master on any occasion at all."

Some day, one can imagine, instruction in "First Aid" and other subjects will form as necessary a part of ordinary school instruction as Nature-study has now at last been recognized to be. There is a short but sensible 'Note on the Curriculum,' but the greater part of the book deals with the incidents of school-life dear to the average boy, whose point of view Mr. Parker well understands.

The idiosyncrasies of the "Masters," as distinguished from the value of their teaching; the technicailities of the Wall game; Jubilee celebrations; shooting for the Spencer Cup; bathing at "Athens" or Boveney Weir—these and kindred subjects fill the majority of Mr. Parker's pages.

Most amusing is the chapter on 'Eton Journalism,' in which, incidentally, he corrects one or two slips by Eton's best historian, Sir Henry Maxwell-Lyte. We were not aware that the "Eton Correspondent" who hoaxed a guileless London editor into printing week by week a whole series of bogus news and imaginary customs had had the hardihood to reprint his efforts in book-form. Only two copies of 'Eton as She is Not' are said to survive. We confess that Mr.

Parker's extracts therefrom made us laugh loud and long.

This, for instance, is surely an admirable piece of fooling, and one can scarcely wonder if it succeeded in imposing upon the innocence of Fleet Street, with its memories of Tossing the Pancake at Westminster:

"Another curious custom at Eton is 'Slunching the Paddocks.' On a certain day all the Collegians and Oppidans are provided with a coarse sort of pudding, which is put to the following use: After dinner is over they all go to Weston's and School Paddocks, and throw their pudding all over them. This is 'Slunching the Paddocks,' the pudding being called Slunch. It is supposed to be derived from the fact that, when Queen Elizabeth visited Eton College, 'she lunched' (slunched) in College Hall, and the students sprinkled the paddocks with dry rice in her honour."

A Literary Friendship: Letters to Lady Alwyne Compton, 1869–81, from Thomas Westwood. (John Murray, 5s. net.)

The Story of Yone Noguchi. Told by Himself. Illustrated by Yoshio Markino. (Chatto & Windus, 6s. net.)

FROM most points of view no two books might be thought to have less in common than those we put together at the head of this notice. The comfortable and kindly director of an Anglo-Belgian railway, living at ease in the sleepy Brussels of the seventies, seems the absolute antithesis of the eager, adventurous, often destitute, modern Japanese, picking up a sorry living by washing dishes in the hotels of the Pacific slope. Yet the polished and restrained correspondence of Thomas Westwood with Lady Alwyne Compton, and the voluble, self-conscious essays of Noguchi, have one dominant note in common. Both, unconsciously indeed, and by implication, preach a lesson, and provide a rebuke to any man of letters who, "with what he most enjoys contented least," may be sometimes tempted to spurn his art, and to wonder whether literature is really worth while after all, and whether the making of books is not an endless business doubtfully worth the bother. For the guiding influence of these two men's lives, otherwise so diverse, is the insistent vision of high poetry, the call to the tops of Parnassus. It is an influence of which the reader is perpetually and happily aware, permeating, dominating, and sweetening their lives, thoughts, and aspirations, in spite of the business of money-making, and the distractions of exile.

Westwood, who was an early contributor to our own columns, did not achieve greatness either as critic or poet, but he was clever and urbane, and a lover of good letters always. He loved children too, and little dogs, and flowers, and angling, and the Ardennes. But books, old and new, and their bindings, and, above all, poets, and of poets above all Tennyson, form the main thesis of his letters. If his criticisms seem to us now a trifle jejune and lacking in catholicity,

it is none the less interesting to be taken back to the days when men thought that Tennyson had ended his career as a poet with the 'Idylls of the King,' and regarded Browning and Swinburne as intolerable. Westwood admired Mrs. Browning, and thought that her poetry was ruined by her marriage; his voluminous correspondence with her is frequently referred to in these pages, and it is evident that he wished it to be published. There is a reference to another great woman writer which is of interest in view of recent discussions concerning 'Villette.' In Brussels, he tells us,

"I can show you Currier Bell's house, and perhaps, if chance befriended us, M. Paul Emanuel and Madame Beck too.

"M. Paul has grown old and grey-headed, but is petulant and vivacious as of old. Madame Beck has given up school-keeping and retired on her laurels. Our English chaplain here remembers Charlotte Brontë perfectly. She came over here with an introduction to his parents, and his province, as a lad, was to escort her back to school, after evenings spent at their house. A purgatorial process, he declares it was, from her invincible taciturnity. He remembers her, too, in the family circle, screwing her chair round by degrees, till her face was to the wall and her back to everybody, as I think Mrs. Gaskell relates. A strange woman, and a strange family! Was there ever anybody like them?

"I have a school theme of Charlotte's in a delicate, girlish handwriting, and M. Paul Emanuel has quite a bundle of them. He remembers her with affection, Madame Beck with wrath."

Unhappily, Westwood never wrote the one essay to which his correspondent wisely urged him, and which might well have secured him literary immortality. For it was his rare fortune to have been taught Latin by Charles Lamb, and, as a child, to have had the run of Elia's library. We are told that the lad would sit unnoticed under Lamb's table till a late hour in the night, afraid of moving or making a sound lest he should be sent to bed, listening to the talk of Lamb and his illustrious friends. But there, alas! the record ceases. We cannot refrain from quoting a tribute to a periodical which has helped many a man of letters: "Hunting over old books is my delight, and, of all incentives thereto, commend me to *Notes and Queries*."

There is more of the true matter of poetry in Noguchi, just as there is more of romance and struggle in his life. His poems are cast in a form which makes them difficult for the ordinary Englishman to appreciate. But his autobiographical essays are written with an air of naive egotism, and in an exotic style which recalls the books of his friend and illustrator, Yoshio Markino. They succeed in bringing before us, in a peculiarly vivid manner, the experiences which contribute to the development of a poet's mind. We do not, in fact, know anything quite like the cumulative effect of these chapters of a poet's autobiography since De Quincey remembered and imagined the adventures of his own mind in the world of matter. A certain amount of repetition, vagueness,

and contradiction suggests, indeed, that the Japanese poet, like the English prose-writer, is not above the temptation to interpret his memories with an eye to effect, and that art is concealed beneath the cloak of an engaging *naïveté*. However that may be, the career of this young poet of old Japan is of extraordinary interest. He still recalls the thrill with which he first opened Wilson's spelling-book, and was taught English by a common sailor in a Buddhist temple in the days when red hair and white skin were a sufficient qualification for any Western teacher in a Japanese school. Thus prepared, he embarked for San Francisco, only to find that his pronunciation was unintelligible. There, whilst earning his bread and butter as kitchen-boy to an Irish cook, he applied himself to learning the language and reading the English poets. "One morning the cook asked me to get a dozen eggs from the grocer; I kept up reciting Kingsley's 'Three Fishermen' so that I quite forgot the part of my hand, and dropped the bag to the pavement." He soon changed this place for the office of a Japanese newspaper which had a staff of six living upon a circulation of under 200, but rich in the possession of a whole set of 'The Encyclopædia Britannica.' Books were the prime necessities of life for this amazing youth:—

"Books were my sweet companions when I led the so-called tramp life in the three succeeding years, once alone travelling in the Yosemite Valley, where I took Milton's book of poems, whose organ melody did well match the valley's rhapsodic grandeur. On the other occasion when I walked down from San Francisco to Los Angeles (how I walked those hundreds of miles impresses my present mind as quite wonderful) I was constantly with Shelley, who is the poet bound naturally to come after Keats. I found on my arrival in Los Angeles that my copy of Shelley had been lost; from my immediate desire to get another copy, I engaged to work one week at a wooden-box factory; when I had worked well those seven days, I was able to buy, besides the Shelley book, Verlaine's book of poems. Ever since he is one of my beloved poets."

From the Japanese colony of the coast Noguchi passed to Joaquin Miller's mountain home, spending four years under the roof of that eccentric poet, listening to his talk upon poets in the intervals of his eloquent preaching on the charms and virtue of silence. To his host during the years when Noguchi was making his own reputation as the author of 'From the Eastern Sea,' he pays a fine tribute:—

"To live in poetry is ten times nobler than merely to write it; to understand it well is certainly far more divine than to speak it on the tongue. If there ever was a poet who fully lived or practised poetry, it was that Joaquin Miller, even though he may not have been a great poet of words; and he sufficiently proved the fact of his living in poetry at 'The Heights' as God's gardener, as he pleased to call himself. It was his hope to build a City Beautiful; he failed, doubtless, if that City meant the communion or fellowship of men. But I think that he tried his best in the building, and was even successful as far as his part only was concerned."

It is passages of the kind we have quoted which please us most in Noguchi's book, revealing as they do the poet's lifelong struggle after the best in literature under difficulties greater than those with which even the poorest of our own people have to contend. But his criticisms of Chicago and London, and his descriptions of his return to his home in Japan, have charm; and the pictures show Yoshio Markino at his best.

SOME ANNUALS.

THE war has taken a heavy toll of families who figure in Peerages, and the editor of 'Debrett' has had an immense amount of work to keep his pages up to date. Considering the changes that have had to be made in a limited time, we may describe the book as amazingly accurate. Deaths on the battle-field have altered the normal lines of descent in many cases. Up to the time the volume went to press fifteen peerages and over twenty baronetcies had been so affected. But, if casualties caused many corrections, the war services mentioned in dispatches and the hundreds of appointments and promotions due to the European conflict have thrown even more labour on those responsible for this excellent book of reference.

The German Emperor and the Emperor of Austria have disappeared from our Army and Navy Lists, but, as their British Orders have not yet been taken from them, they still figure in our Peerages. It is, however, interesting to note the fact that writs of summons to the House of Lords have not been issued to the Duke of Cumberland and the Duke of Albany, though they are both holders of peerages in this kingdom.

Among new features we note that the book now includes the children of the widows of Knights and of members of the Privy Council. This is also the first time that it has been possible, owing to the issue of an Official Roll of Baronets, for 'Debrett' to exclude some whose claims were doubtful.

Another valuable addition is the phonetic spelling of difficult names. People need no longer mispronounce such words as Wemyss, Tweeddale, and Torphichen; but some simpler-looking names still remain as stumbling-blocks for the unwary.

If there is any defect in 'Debrett,' it perhaps lies in the fact that too much space is allowed to authors of no great distinction who happen to have titles.

Debrett's Peerage, Baronetage, Knighthage, and Companionage, 1915. Edited by Arthur G. M. Hesilridge. (Dean & Son, 1*l*. 1*s*. 6*d*. net.)

The Post Office London Directory, 1915. (Kelly's Directories, 2*l*.)

Who's Who, 1915. (A. & C. Black, 1*s*. net.)

Who's Who Year-Book, 1914-15. (Same publishers, 1*s*. net.)

The Writers' and Artists' Year-Book, 1915. (Same publishers, 1*s*. net.)

Whitaker's Almanack, 1915. (Whitaker & Sons, 2*s*. 6*d*. net.)

They are allowed to set out at length publications which it would be kinder to leave in oblivion.

The binding of our copy of 'The Post Office London Directory,' inscribed with our own name, is admirable and wear-resisting. The mass of material it contains is marvellously accurate and detailed. It has slightly decreased in size this year, the first section declining from 2,661 to 2,549 pages. Messrs. Kelly explain the decrease by a resetting and a rearrangement of some of the subsections; but an examination of the names under certain of the 'Trade' headings would suggest another cause. The Bavarian Rubber Co. has disappeared from the list of 'Airship Fabric Makers'; there are twenty-one names under 'Aniline Colour Manufacturers,' but Chemische Fabriken and Pfeifer & Co. are not among them; last year's thirty-one ammunition manufacturers have shrunk to twenty-six, and among the missing are Braun & Bloem, König, and Charles G. Mueller. Still heavier is the shrinkage in lager-beer manufacturers and importers—thirty-six have dwindled to twenty-five; and of six mouth-organ makers only two remain.

To balance this appear several new industries encouraged by the war: first-aid outfits, rifle-range builders, and airship manufacturers. 'Aeroplane Dope Manufacturers' has puzzled us. The list reveals many curious things: there are five manufacturers of "butter colouring"; cap-peak making is a separate industry from that of cap-making; the names of the cats'-meat dealers of London fill a column and a half; and artificial eye makers number ten. Kinematograph requisites come under three new headings, and occupy three-quarters of a column. There is a whole column devoted to eel-pie houses, and fried-fish shops occupy no fewer than six. Five tattooists ply their curious trade, and there are six towel and duster lenders, while the waste-paper dealers fill a column and a half. The verdigris importers have shrunk to two; but the two calico printers' blanket manufacturers and the same body's special doctor still flourish.

'Who's Who, 1915,' is a bulky volume, and contains some sixty pages more than last year's issue. With the 'Who's Who Year-Book' it supplies a large amount of information which will reduce the labours of those who wish to be accurate. The 'Year-Book' contains, we are told in a Prefatory Note, the tables and names which form the basis of 'Who's Who,' but that guide to eminence or prominence has long extended its range outside official recognition. We are not aware of the principles (apart from a personal appeal for inclusion) on which new biographies are added, and remark, as in former years, that, while the volume does full justice to journalism, it has some strange gaps in scholarship. No editor is mentioned, but we presume that some one is responsible for the choice of new names, and we hope that this authority does not

depend entirely on the press as a guarantee that Mr. X. or Miss Y. is a notable person.

The volume includes distinguished foreigners: for instance, Count Zeppelin, who made his first ascent in a dirigible airship in 1900; but does not record occurrences of a later date than August 31st of last year. Surely it would be possible to bring details closer to date than this, as is done in the brief record of those who have died.

'The Writers' and Artists' Year-Book, 1915,' is a compact guide which deserves a much wider circulation than it has hitherto secured. It explains what editors want, and really ought to reduce the rage for sending MSS. and sketches everywhere in the hope that somebody may find them suitable.

The waste of time, ink, paper, and temper caused by carelessness in such matters is immense, and the offenders are often people who ought to know better, and pose as eager readers of periodicals to which they have obviously never paid any attention.

'Whitaker's Almanack for 1915' is a storehouse of knowledge too well established to need praise, maintaining its familiar form and shape, and its scientific summaries. We think, however, that the name of the original compiler might be removed from the title-page, since the work of getting the Almanack into order is now performed by a later generation of Whitakers. The war claims a prominent position in the volume, and there is a useful summary of the chief events on land and sea. Also the Chancellor's War Budget of November last is analyzed. *The New Age* and *The New Statesman* should have been included in the list of 'Newspaper Offices in London.'

idea that all faery and enchantment left England with the Tudor dynasty. Both adults and children should enjoy Mr. Brock's work.

Wicked Willie, written by Mrs. Margaret A. Rawlins, with illustrations (Longmans, 2s. 6d. net), is the result of the author's desire to make the present war as interesting and comprehensible to her grandchildren as was the war of 1870 to her from the pamphlet 'The Fight in Dame Europa's School,' read aloud to her by her father when she was a child. In a large measure she succeeds. The language is simple and careful, and the general arrangement of her story clear, though hardly as clear as that of her model. She avoids recondite symbolism, and contrives to present even the complicated problems of neutrality, the "scrap of paper," and international relations in general, convincingly, and in a way that should be clear for the most part to any reasonable child. Our only fear is that some of her neater touches may involve explanations, and thereby miss the immediate mark they make on adult readers: for example, the Home Rule question, Woman's Suffrage, and the Papacy; we foresee long discussions with youthful readers. The final chapter, however, strikes us as laboured; the author attempts too much. Would it not have been safer to avoid all personification of the various qualities, national and personal? These are imagined as masters and mistresses in the "Europa" school. Surely it would have been better to show them as they are—real qualities, inherent even in the minds of children, brought out or suppressed in hours of good or bad conduct; for a child knows what is meant by gentleness, might and right, greed, pity, and love. The illustrations are effective and appropriate.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN have added to the 3s. 6d. "Globe Library" the rendering of the 'Iliad' by Messrs. Lang, Leaf, and Myers—a sure sign of the popularity of this attractive version of Homer. As we suggested in our review of the first edition (May 19th, 1883), the translators were quite justified in selecting as their model a language archaic even in its own day, for poetry which cannot have been other than archaic in the greatest days of Greece. We still can find no decision as to the possibility that the English language, as now spoken and written by living men, may be a fit vehicle for Homer. Language is inevitably affected by the sphere of thought or life to which it is applied, and so a sphere alien to ordinary life cannot but tempt those who write it into some degree of eclecticism. We may well suppose that Mr. C. M. Doughty had some such motive for his choice of language in his 'Travels in Arabia.' More than this, we have striking proof of the limitations of modern English in the Revised Version and other up-to-date renderings of the Bible—limitations that even drag inaccuracy into their train, to judge from such mistranslations as "high-toned" for εὐθυνος. Some future day may, perhaps, bring forth a really great and satisfying translation of Homer, but we cannot suppose that any translator, whoever he may be, will lose by conforming to the methods and choice of period justified so far by Messrs. Lang, Leaf, and Myers. The print of the volume is excellent—a great consideration, for some of the "Globe" books are a trial to the eyes.

BOOKS PUBLISHED THIS WEEK.

THEOLOGY.

Burgett (Rev. A. E.), THE DOOR OF HEAVEN: A MANUAL FOR HOLY COMMUNION, 6d. S.P.C.K.
This is a little book intended for young people preparing for Confirmation.

Relton (Rev. H. M.), THE WAR AND THE EXTENSION OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM, a Word to Christian Workers, Clerical and Lay, 1d. net. S.P.C.K.
The Bishop of Willesden writes a Foreword.

Robinson (Arthur W.), GOD AND THE WORLD: A SURVEY OF THOUGHT, 6d. net. S.P.C.K.
This is one of "a series of evidential books" issued by the Christian Evidence Society. Sir Oliver Lodge contributes a Prefatory Note.

Stapledon (Olaf), LATTER-DAY PSALMS, 2 / net.
Liverpool, Henry Young

Thoughts on God, the universe, war, and peace written in a form modelled after the Psalms of David.

Tutting (Rev. W. C.), WAR AND OUR RELIGION, 6d. net. S.P.C.K.
Containing three sermons on "Christianity and War," "The Better Side of War," and "Christianity and Patriotism."

LAW.

Bouvier (John), BOUVIER'S LAW DICTIONARY AND CONCISE ENCYCLOPÆDIA, 3 vols., Third Revision by Francis Rawle.
Kansas City, Mo., Vernon Law Book Co.

The eighth edition.
Johns (Rev. C. H. W.), THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE LAWS OF BABYLONIA AND THE LAWS OF THE HEBREW PEOPLES, 3 / net.
Milford for the British Academy
The Schweich Lectures for 1912.

POETRY.

Curchod (Madame Henri), UNION JACK, AND OTHER BATTLE SONGS AND POEMS ON INCIDENTS CONNECTED WITH THE WAR OF THE NATIONS, 1 / net.
Paisley, Alexander Gardner

The proceeds of the sale will be devoted to the benefit of wounded British and French soldiers.

Kipling (Rudyard), DEPARTMENTAL DITTIES, 2 vols.; THE FIVE NATIONS, 2 vols.; THE SEVEN SEAS, 2 vols., 2 / 6 net per volume.
Methuen
More volumes in the "Service Kipling."

Shepperton (William), CHATTERTON, 1 / net.
Bowyer Press

A long piece devoted to various phases of Chatterton's career.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Fordham (Sir H. G.), STUDIES IN CARTO-BIBLIOGRAPHY, BRITISH AND FRENCH, 6 / net.
Oxford, Clarendon Press

This includes studies in the Bibliography of Road-Books and Itineraries, and of County Maps in the British Isles.

St. Helen's, THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUM, 1913-14. St. Helen's, the Committee
The reports are followed by statistical tables and balance sheets.

PHILOSOPHY.

Lees (Rev. E.), ACROSS THE HORIZON LINE: THE VOYAGE OF DEATH, 2 / net.
Sheffington
Thoughts on death and the life after death.

Russell (Hon. Bertrand), SCIENTIFIC METHOD IN PHILOSOPHY, 1 / 6 net. Oxford, Clarendon Press
The Herbert Spencer Lecture delivered on November 18th, 1914.

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

Coleman (Christopher Bush), CONSTANTINE THE GREAT AND CHRISTIANITY, THREE PHASES: THE HISTORICAL, THE LEGENDARY, AND THE SPURIOUS, 8 / Longmans
One of the "Studies" edited by the Faculty of Political Science of Columbia University, New York.

Stoddard (T. Lothrop), THE FRENCH REVOLUTION IN SAN DOMINGO, 8 / net.
Boston, Houghton Mifflin Co.

An account of the downfall of white supremacy in San Domingo and the establishment of the black republic of Haiti.

LITERARY CRITICISM.

Art and Craft of Letters: CRITICISM, by P. P. Howe; PARODY, by Christopher Stone; THE ESSAY, by Orlo Williams; THE BALLAD, by Frank Sidgwick, 1 / net each. Secker
Further volumes in this series.

How (Marjorie Noel), HISTORICAL ROMANCE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY, 1 / net.
Hodder & Stoughton for Univ. of London Press
The John Oliver Hobbes Memorial Scholarship Essay for 1914.

WAR PUBLICATIONS.

Allan (Andrew), ARMAGEDDON! BEFORE AND AFTER, 1 / net. Potter-Savart Publishing Co.

The author considers the meaning of certain passages of the Apocalypse in relation to modern inventions and the war.

Ash (Edwin L.), NERVE IN WAR-TIME, 1 / net.
Mills & Boon

The author's argument is that "the nerve of any people led by modern German teachers such as Nietzsche and his confrères will never stand against that of soldiers fighting for Humanity, Justice, and Freedom."

Ball (Canon C. R.), THE WAR, IMPRESSIONS AND REFLECTIONS, 6d. net. S.P.C.K.

A "series of reflections on some of the more spiritual aspects of the present war."

Bishop (Percy Cook), THE LIFE-STORY OF ALBERT, KING OF THE BELGIANS, 2d. Aldine Press.

A popular account of the part played by King Albert and Belgium in the war. In the "Men of the Moment Series."

Christian's War Book, edited and arranged by Marr Murray, 2 / net.
Hodder & Stoughton

This book includes chapters on "The Justification of War," "The Hero Priests of Belgium," "The War and the Social Evil," "The War and Missions, &c., and consists of extracts from the writings of prominent members of the Churches and denominations.

Jane (Fred. T.), SILHOUETTES OF GERMAN FIGHTING SHIPS, 1 / net.
Sampson Low

An aid to the identification of ships at sea, with maps and other illustrations.

Oxford Pamphlets, 1914, 2d. net each.
Milford

The latest issue includes "The Leadership of the World," by Mr. F. S. Marvin; "German Sea-Power," by Prof. F. Charles Sanford Terry; "Food Supplies in War Time," by Mr. R. H. Rew; and "All for Germany"; or, "The World's Respect Well Lost," a dialogue in the "satyrick" manner between Dr. Pangloss and M. Candide.

Soldier's Geography of Europe, 3d. net.
Philip

This is a fifth edition, revised, of "Philips' Model Geography, Europe."

Taylor (G. R. Stirling), THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE GREAT WAR, 2 / net.
Secker

Includes chapters on "The Factors Involved," "The Foundations of Modern Europe," Germany, France, and Russia.

MILITARY.

Singh (Saint Nihal), INDIA'S FIGHTERS: THEIR METTLE, HISTORY, AND SERVICES TO BRITAIN, 3 / 6 net.
Sampson Low

The author describes the origin of the various fighting clans of India, the composition of the Indian army, and its past and present services to Great Britain.

PHILOLOGY.

New English Dictionary, edited by Sir James A. H. Murray: SU-SUBTERRANEUS, by C. T. Onions, 2 / 6 Oxford, Clarendon Press

This section records 1,853 words, which are illustrated by 7,686 quotations.

Robertson (A. T.), A GRAMMAR OF THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT IN THE LIGHT OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH, 20 / net.
Hodder & Stoughton

Twenty-six years ago the author began a revision of Winer's Grammar in collaboration with Dr. Broadus. But "so much progress had been made in comparative philology and historical grammar" that it was decided to make "a new grammar on a new plan," and Dr. Broadus resigned on account of age.

ECONOMICS.

Statistical Report of the California State Board of Agriculture for the Year 1913.
California, State Printing Office

The statistical summary of the production and resources of California, compiled by Mr. George Robertson, State Statistician, with a topographical, geographical, and railroad large-scale map.

Yin Chu Ma, THE FINANCES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, 10 / King

A study of the financial transactions of the City of New York, and an explanation of how the city is now financially maintained.

EDUCATIONAL.

Parker (Irene), DISSENTING ACADEMIES IN ENGLAND, 4 / net. Cambridge University Press

A study of their rise and progress, and of the contribution made to education by Puritanism and Dissent.

SCHOOL-BOOKS.

Black's Travel Pictures: COUNTRIES OF THE GREAT WAR; BRITISH ISLES; and THE MEDITERRANEAN, selected and edited by Robert J. Finch, 10d. each.

Additions to this series, which has already been noted in *The Athenæum*.

Burrows (H. L.), THE STORY OF ENGLISH INDUSTRY AND TRADE, 1 / 6 Black

A school Reader, giving a sketch of the history of English industry from mediæval times. It is illustrated.

Catthcart (Gertrude D.), FIRST BOOK OF PHYSIOLOGY AND HYGIENE, 1 / 6 Macmillan

A textbook written in simple language, with a few technical terms as possible.

Chaucer, PRIORRESS'S TALE, 1 / 6 University Tutorial Press

Edited by Prof. C. M. Drennan for advanced students, with notes and an Introduction.

Chignell (N. J.), NUMERICAL TRIGONOMETRY, 2 / 6 Oxford, Clarendon Press

A textbook for use in schools. The work lays great stress "on the idea of a ratio as an operator." It may be had with or without answers.

Coleman (Percy), CO-ORDINATE GEOMETRY, 4 / 6 Oxford, Clarendon Press

The book covers a first year's course in the subject, and is intended for use in upper forms.

Fautrass (Gustave), L'ODYSSEE D'UN ARTILLEUR, adapted and edited by L. von Glehn, 2 / 6 Oxford, Clarendon Press

An edition for junior forms. Questionnaire, exercises, notes, and Vocabulary are added to the text.

Finnemore (John), SOCIAL LIFE IN WALES, 1 / 6 Black

A simple account of the changes in Welsh life from the earliest times to the end of the nineteenth century. The book contains coloured and photographic illustrations and maps.

Lay (E. J. S.), THE PUPILS' CLASS-BOOK OF GEOGRAPHY: THE BRITISH DOMINIONS, 6d. Macmillan

A description and summary, with 32 maps and diagrams.

Reed (G. H.), GRAPHIC CHART OF ENGLISH HISTORY, 2 / net. Cambridge University Press

The chart shows the succession of centuries from 100 B.C. to the present time. The development is traced of ships of war, fighting forces, social reforms, inventions, and architecture. There are also sections devoted to great men and events.

Ritchie (R. L. Graeme) and Moore (James M.), A MANUAL OF FRENCH COMPOSITION, 7 / 6 net. Cambridge University Press

Contains an Introduction pointing out the educative value and some especially aggressive difficulties of French composition, model lessons, and over two hundred selected passages for translation.

Shakespeare, MERCHANT OF VENICE, 1 / 4 University Tutorial Press

Edited by Mr. S. E. Goggin for the use of junior students, with notes and an Introduction.

FICTION.

Bardeen (C. W.), THE GIRL FROM GIRTON. Syracuse, N.Y., C. W. Bardeen

A collection of short stories of American school life.

Cannan (Gilbert), YOUNG EARNEST, 6 / Secker

The life-story of a young man devoid of a sense of humour, and of the three women who influence the course of his life.

Harris (J. Henry), THE PENWARNES, 3 / 6 net. Plymouth, Western Morning News Co.

The story of Josiah Penwarne, gentleman, of Cornwall, during the eighteenth century.

JUVENILE.

Dawn of Day, volume for 1914, 1 / S.P.C.K.
A bound copy of the monthly issues.

McClure (M. L.), THE CHILDREN'S BREAD, 2 / net. S.P.C.K.

Teachings of the Church's year from Advent to Trinity, compiled particularly for the isolated Sunday School pupil, and reprinted from *Our Empire*.

REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

Blackwood's Magazine, JANUARY, 2/6

Among the contents are 'The Lion of the Levant,' by Mr. Arthur E. P. B. Weigall; 'Tenures—Sporting and Sportive,' by Mr. L. F. Salzmann; and 'By the Power of Water,' by Mr. J. M. Callwell.

Classical Review, DECEMBER, 1/ net.

John Murray

The 'Original Contributions' are not numerous in this number, but include an interesting note by Mr. H. J. Rose on 'Fairy Gold: an Ancient Belief.' Mr. W. F. Witton suggests a new derivation for πόλεμος, and Mr. J. Lodge does a new translation of the song of Hybris the Cretan. There are also a large number of reviews.

Contemporary Review, JANUARY, 2/6

10, Adelphi Terrace, W.C.

'Sea Strategy in the World-Wide War,' by Commander Carlyon Bellairs; '1815 and 1915,' by Dr. J. Holland Rose; and 'Silent Neutrals,' by Sir John Macdonell, are among the contents of this issue.

Cornhill Magazine, JANUARY, 1/

Smith & Elder

The contents of this issue were noticed in the 'Literary Gossip' on December 19th.

London Quarterly Review, JANUARY, 2/6 Kelly

Includes 'Christianity and Defensive War,' by Prof. J. Hope Moulton; 'John Dryden: his Poetry and his Prose,' by Mr. E. E. Kellett; and 'Nietzsche, Germany, and the War,' by Miss Dora M. Jones.

My Garden, Illustrated, Christmas Number, 6d. net.

11 and 13, Victoria Street, S.W.

Features in this issue are 'Bulbs in Bowls,' by Mr. Henry T. Wilkin; 'Perpetual Flowering Carnations in Winter,' by Mr. Montagu C. Allwood; and 'A Brief Sketch on Lead Tanks and Cisterns,' by Mr. H. W. Cashmore.

Yale Review, 75 cents.

New Haven, Conn., Yale Publishing Association

The January number includes 'America and the European War,' by Norman Angell; 'The Political Teachings of Treitschke,' by Mr. Arthur T. Hadley; and 'Academic Superstition and Democracy,' by Miss Florence V. Keys.

ANNUALS AND CALENDARS.

Kelly's Handbook to the Titled, Landed, and Official Classes, 1915, 15/- Kelly's Directories

The forty-first annual issue has been revised and brought up to date, and contains biographical notices of nearly 30,000 persons.

Music Lover's Calendar for 1915, 1/ net. Harrap

A booklet calendar, illustrated with portraits.

Novel Lover's Calendar for 1915, 1/ net. Harrap

Illustrated with portraits of novelists.

Playgoer's Calendar for 1915, 1/ net. Harrap

Containing portraits in photogravure of dramatists.

Wagner Calendar for 1915, 1/ net. Harrap

An illustrated booklet calendar.

Whitaker's Almanack, 1915, 2/6 net.

12, Warwick Lane, E.C.

See p. 7.

Whitaker's Peerage, 1915, 5/ net.

12, Warwick Lane, E.C.

Includes recent honours, promotions, and appointments, and an obituary.

GENERAL.

National Museum of Wales: SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1913-14. Cardiff, the Museum

The Report is followed by lists of donations and donors, financial statements, &c.

Ottoman Public Debt: Special Report, 1913-14, by Sir Adam Block.

The Special Report is followed by a translation of the Annual Report of the Council of Administration.

Wilkins (Helen), HOME COURSE IN MENTAL SCIENCE, 4/6 net. Bell

The book includes chapters on 'Thought, the Body-Builder,' 'Prayer and Self-Culture,' 'Practical Healing,' and 'Posture of the Will Man.'

PAMPHLETS.

Clayton (Rev. H. J.), THE DIOCESES OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 2d. net. S.P.C.K.

A short account of the creation and history of the bishoprics of England and Wales.

SCIENCE.

Hardy (G. H.), A COURSE OF PURE MATHEMATICS, 12/- net. Cambridge University Press

A second edition.

Heath (the late Francis George), ALL ABOUT LEAVES, 4/6 net. Williams & Norgate

With 80 photographs from nature, and four coloured plates from drawings by Miss M. Schroeder.

FINE ARTS.

Lenyon (Francis), FURNITURE IN ENGLAND FROM 1660 TO 1760, "Library of Decorative Art," 40/- net. Batsford

This history of the customs and changing fashions in English furniture forms a companion volume to the author's 'Decoration in England from 1660 to 1770,' noted last week.

Norton (Richard), BERNINI, AND OTHER STUDIES IN THE HISTORY OF ART, 21/- net. Macmillan

Three essays on 'Bernini,' 'Aspects of the Art of Sculpture,' and 'Giorgione.' There are numerous full-page illustrations.

MUSIC.

Kilburn (Paul), FOUR COMPOSITIONS FOR PIANOFORTE: No. 1. LEGEND. No. 2. BIRTHDAY ODE. No. 3. TONES OLD AND NEW. No. 4. WALTZ STUDY, 2/- net each. Lengnick

DRAMA.

Barrie (J. M.), DER TAG, a Play, 1/- net. Hodder & Stoughton

The topical play which was produced at the Coliseum last week.

Wynne (Arnold), THE GROWTH OF ENGLISH DRAMA, 3/6 net. Oxford, Clarendon Press

The author's purpose is to present, 'side by side with criticism, such data as may enable the reader to form an independent judgment.' The book opens with a chapter on 'Early Church Drama on the Continent,' and ends with a consideration of 'Arden of Feversham.'

FOREIGN.

Larrabure y Unanue, LES ARCHIVES DES INDES ET LA BIBLIOTHEQUE COLOMBINE DE SEVILLE

Paris, Hemmerlé et Cie

A guide to the ancient documents relating to the discovery of America and the Spanish conquests in the New World in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries which are now collected and exhibited at Seville. The author is the Vice-President of the Republic of Peru.

THE BOOK SALES OF 1914.

PART I.

In the world of book sales each season begins about the middle of October, continuing, with occasional brief interludes, to the end of July in the following year, the main hiatus falling in August, September, and part of October. This is the normal course, but last year an additional partial suspension occurred during the period from October to December, and to this special attention will be directed later. From January to July, however, the position was normal, and as most books are sold during the months in question, there is almost as much to chronicle as usual.

It has been observed that the general tendency in the case of very rare and valuable books has been upward during the past few years, so far as their price in the market is concerned, and this arises from a perfectly natural cause. Money may, indeed, be more plentiful at one time than at another; but the question of general prosperity is only slightly affected when books of the class indicated are involved, since there is at all times a certain limited class of buyers who are unaffected by considerations of the kind, and it is they who keep up the prices. The large public

libraries are also interested, and they are just as much a thorn in the side of the rich collector as any of his private rivals. Competition, more or less strenuous, always takes place when a book which only one person can have is ardently desired by many. This is common knowledge, but the reasons that make it a special object of interest are on a different plane, as also are the variations—some of them obvious, others more subtle—which are disclosed in some copies of the same book and edition, and not in others. These variations, elevated to the position of cardinal distinctions, make many a well-known book seem altogether different from what it was, or might have been, when last we saw it.

It is not so very long ago, after all, since a book was a book, and one copy as good as another, condition, of course, being equal; but many extraneous factors have latterly become a recognized part of the game, science, occupation, or what you will of collecting. All kinds of distinctions hedge the progress of the specialist, and those collectors who are specialists seem to become more exclusive and exacting every day. The character, or even mere age, of a binding may invest almost any book with a particular interest; the sixteenth of an inch in height over and above the normal may make it a thing apart. It may disclose a written inscription, of unusual importance in itself or of none at all, or contain a blank or other leaf not always, nor indeed often, found in copies of the same date. All these and other factors count, some of them very seriously indeed, and it is not at all surprising that books important in themselves, or made so by circumstances, realize exceptional prices which are continually advancing in the face of competition as the number of really good and available copies becomes less. Every very desirable book bought and transferred to a private library may be regarded as a prisoner held for a term of years; while each one housed in a public library becomes a prisoner for life.

A good example of this is afforded by the copy of Ben Jonson's 'Sejanus, His Fall,' which in March, 1913, realized 77. It belonged to the first edition of 1605, remarkable as containing passages not reprinted in the folio edition. The book is consequently important in itself, and the copy in question was, on the whole, good, but not immaculate, a rust-hole having destroyed one letter, and a catchword being missing, doubtless cut off by the binder. On the other hand, a copy of the same edition realized 900/- in July last year. The latter copy was much larger—it was, in fact, on large paper, and perhaps unique in that respect—it was in its original vellum binding, and in addition had an inscription in the handwriting of Ben Jonson himself: "To my perfect Freind, Mr. Francis Crane, I erect this pillar of Freindship. And Leaue it as the eternall Witnesse of my Loue." Book for book, one copy was as good intrinsically as the other, but the missing catchword and the rust played their part at one end of the scale, and the measurement, the binding, and, above all, the inscription, at the other. This is an extreme case, but the same principle is involved in every instance where a book of unusual interest and rarity is in question. The copy realizing the larger sum was really a curiosity by reason of the highly exceptional circumstances surrounding it. Rare in itself, it was seen to have become more rare, and therefore more desirable, from every point of view.

The collector of to-day is always on the look out for such books, and they realize

prices — invariably high — commensurate with the extent of the combination of extraneous "points" they offer. Even a very common book may be elevated to a high position should it contain an inscription by its author, or, indeed, by any one whose name has been glorified by time.

This position has been accentuated through the year that has come to its close, and through the year before that and for many years, the result, from a marketable point of view, being constantly advancing prices, which for long have been the despair of all but the very few. The collector of average means knows well by this time that bookish big-game hunting is practically almost a dead sport, and that he has as much chance of meeting with an escaped lion in the Strand as with any one of the books he sees chronicled from time to time as having, for one reason or another, excited competition to fever heat.

There are, of course, still more books which are noticeable by reason of their rarity alone, though it is a great mistake to suppose that a book is necessarily valuable merely because it is difficult to acquire. Some books are very rare indeed, in the sense of being unusually difficult to acquire, but as nobody wants them they rank as derelicts. The monetary position occupied by any book depends entirely upon the extent of the demand there is for it, and innumerable instances occur of books becoming scarce which were at one time comparatively common. These belong to certain classes which happen, often through the inscrutable decrees of fashion, to have come into prominence; but it will be seen on consideration that they invariably have some degree of merit or antiquarian interest in their favour. They may, for instance, be examples of early printing, though not necessarily the earliest; or they may treat, in a quaint or curious manner, of some special subject now viewed differently, or improved upon, or altogether exploded; or they may contain illustrations of a distinctive kind. Many such books have been sold during the past year, and the value of most of them appears to be fairly stationary. It is, perhaps, hardly necessary to say that Americana have been few in number, and, as pointed out last year, the "right" date has been advanced to keep pace with the growing demand for works of the kind. At one time few books of this class dated later than about 1720 were regarded with much interest, but the whole of the nineteenth century is now covered, each volume being regarded on its merits. Books relating to the Colonies, though not in precisely the same position, are rapidly approximating to it, and before long many of these works, wherever printed, will be far more difficult to obtain than they are at present. In their case the middle period of the nineteenth century has become the line of demarcation.

So far the question of pure utility has not been considered, and the ordinary book-lover, who reads books for information's sake, who is met with everywhere, and has the longest pedigree of all bookmen and the best, and cares little or nothing for this war of prices, will be pleased to be assured that he, at any rate, is beyond the necessity of participating in it. Recent events confirm what has been apparent for a long time, namely, that books of an all-round, useful, and intellectual character can, as a rule, be got at much less cost than was possible ten or a dozen years ago. The difference between now and then is most marked, but very difficult to account for, when it is remembered that old and by no means quite new books are in question. The fact, however, remains that works of this class, which

are, as they have always been, the backbone of every library worthy the name, can be got for very little and without much difficulty, though there are, as usual, exceptions, chiefly dependent upon particular editions being desired for some special purpose. The ordinary reader can have, to some extent at least, a comforting assurance that his necessities are not endangered, and, so far as experience can carry us, are not likely to be for many years to come. Such books as these are sold in thousands every season without comment, for they do not come within any of the rules which generations of bookmen of a more exacting type have laid down, nor do they appeal with any force to what may, perhaps, be called the natural instincts of the modern Dibdin, that great stickler for a minuteness which has more than once been described by jealous and defeated detractors as a distinction without a difference.

Books of this class apart, a glance at the reports of the sales as they appeared from time to time in *The Athenæum* will have shown how matters stood, and if these were collected and analyzed, they would in themselves point in no uncertain way to the activities of the year. This, however, would be a lengthy and troublesome task for any one to undertake, and a general retrospective survey should be sufficient.

From January to the end of July forty-three high-class sales were held in London and elsewhere, the total amount realized being very nearly 175,000*l.* To this large sum the second portion of the library of the late Mr. George Dunn of Maidenhead contributed 8,268*l.*; the fifth and final portion of the library of the late Mr. Charles Butler of Connaught Place, 6,012*l.*; a portion of the library of Mr. H. W. F. Hunter Arundel of Barjarg Tower, Dumfries, and other properties, nearly 7,000*l.*; a portion of the library of the Earl of Pembroke, nearly 39,000*l.*; the fourth portion of the Huth Library, 18,611*l.*; the library of the late Mr. T. G. Arthur of Ayr, 7,545*l.*; and a number of books and manuscripts by R. L. Stevenson, the property of Mr. Lloyd Osbourne, and other books from various sources, 6,526*l.* These were the most notable sales held during the period mentioned, so far as London was concerned, though the fine collection of Thackerayana formed by the late Major W. H. Lambert of Philadelphia must not be omitted. Its importance was such that it realized 28,520*l.*

The first important sale of the year was held at Messrs. Sotheby's on January 14th and two following days (see *The Athenæum*, January 24th, p. 135). It comprised *inter alia* the library of the late Mr. W. Hale White, better known as Mark Rutherford. The chief work of note here was the Poems of the Sisters Brontë as published by Aylott & Jones in 1846, 39*l.* (original cloth), an issue to be carefully distinguished from Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.'s edition of the same date, which is comparatively common. The 'Dictionary of National Biography,' vols. i.-xiv., with both Supplements, the Errata and Index, 1885-1912, fetched 24*l.*, a price which two months later fell to 18*l.* 10*s.* (cloth). The value of this fine book of reference is becoming less owing to the reissue. The library of Mr. John Pearson contained some excellent books. It was sold on January 28th-30th, and is fully reported in *The Athenæum* of February 7th, the number for the following week containing an account of the Dunn Sale previously mentioned. The edition of the celebrated work by Valturius known as 'De Re Militari,' printed at Verona in 1472, realized 205*l.* (contemporary oak boards); and an early example of English printing, 'The

Myrrour of Oure Lady,' Richard Fawkes, 1530, 5*l.* This sum would not be nearly large enough for a good copy, this one being washed and mended. A number of Mrs. Gaskell's works, many of them presentation copies, were sold at Manchester in February, the most noticeable being her autograph diary for the year 1769, which contained many references to Garrick and others who organized the Stratford Jubilee of that year in honour of Shakespeare. This fetched 2*l.*

A sale held on February 17th-20th contained books belonging to Major Hendricks of Rookery House, Watford, Sir John Eldon Gorst, and other gentlemen, the total sum obtained being 3,360*l.* (see *The Athenæum*, February 28th, p. 310). On this occasion a copy of Boccaccio's 'Il Decamerone,' with the imprint Londra (Parigi), 1757, sold for 65*l.* (contemporary morocco). It had the series of "Estampes galantes," consisting of frontispiece without the letterpress, and twenty plates on fine paper without the florete or any border. These "points" are characteristic of the rare first issue, but the main test is one of quality as shown by the clearness of the impressions, and prices vary accordingly.

Major Lambert's library, of which mention has been made, was sold at New York on February 25th-27th, the prices realized being very high. It comprised manuscripts and printed books by or relating to Thackeray. The original manuscript of 'Adventures of Philip on his Way through the World' fetched the equivalent of 2,420*l.*; the autograph MS. of the lecture on Swift, with some additional matter, 340*l.*; and the original MS. of 'The Rose and the Ring,' on ninety pages of paper, no less than 4,600*l.* Among the printed works were 'The Snob,' 1829, in the original boards, 400*l.*; and the only known copy of 'The Whiteman Paper Magazine,' consisting of ten lithographed leaves of text and illustrations and other matter (added), 760*l.* 'Flore et Zephyr,' 1836, fetched 240*l.*; 'King Glumpus,' by Barrow, with illustrations by Thackeray, 380*l.*; 'The Exquisites,' also by Barrow, 1839, 420*l.*; and a set of the original parts of 'Vanity Fair,' 230*l.* Many other correspondingly large amounts were obtained for less important works in a collection which, as a whole, was among the finest of its kind.

J. HERBERT SLATER.

NOTES FROM DUBLIN.

THE recent "Commencements" (conferring of degrees) in Trinity College were noteworthy in many ways. There was a new Provost in the *caput Universitatis*. There was an unusual number of ladies—thirty-eight—taking degrees, and most of them honour degrees. They seemed quite equal in number to the male candidates, of whom a large body had gone off to the war. But they were not really a majority, and will not be such, unless the war goes on for years.

There was a unique feature in the ceremony. Four successful candidates were presented in their showy robes for the degree of Mus.D. Such a thing had never happened before. It is due, partly at least, to the sensible reform by which candidates are allowed to substitute for their exercise (in no sense for their examination) a good practical knowledge of an instrument. They are tested on the organ or piano in reading at sight, transposing, and playing great masterpieces. The insistence upon the keeping of terms by residence in Oxford and Cambridge is the other cause which has made the Dublin degree, which does

not insist on this condition, welcome. As a musical examination, its standard is fully as high as that of its sisters.

At the request of the War Office, the College is going to harbour and train sixty young officers for the month of January. The O.T.C. organization of the College is found perfectly competent to do that, as the War Office knows from the success of those who have obtained commissions through the College.

Thus Trinity College is taking its place among the great patriotic forces which are supporting the Empire in Ireland. G.

PREBENDARY FAUSSET.

We regret to record the death, on December 22nd last, at the comparatively early age of 55, of William Yorke Fausset, Prebendary of Wells, and Vicar of Cheddar, Somerset. He had done excellent work both in classics and theology. In the former he had specialized on Cicero, and his exhaustively complete edition of the 'Pro Cuentio' is likely to remain the standard one for many generations. To theology he had contributed an edition of Augustine's 'De Catechizandis Rudibus' and an elaborate commentary upon the 'De Trinitate' of Novatian. A masterly article by him upon Eucken, which appeared in a recent number of *The Quarterly Review*, attracted considerable attention.

Before entering upon definitely clerical work, Mr. Fausset held two head-masterships: that of Ripon Grammar School (1890-95) and of Bath College (1895-1902). He took his own sixth forms himself, and will long be remembered as an inspired communicator of classical scholarship. He was a no less zealous Churchman and parish priest, and in all probability destined to high preferment in the diocese of Bath and Wells, of which he was one of the most distinguished members. His friends have to mourn in him a singularly attractive and unselfish character, of whom, if of any one, it might be said that he was "aliorum memor, sui egregie immemor."

PRISONERS OF WAR.

Frayne, Herne Bay, December 22, 1914.

FAIR play, if you please! In his notice of a small work of mine, 'Prisoners of War,' in *The Athenæum* for December 19th, your reviewer states that a little research would have prevented me "from mistaking the Piraeus for a man." Undoubtedly it would, had the research been necessary, but I really do happen to know that the Piraeus was not a man, but a harbour. But what in the world does your reviewer mean by taxing me in this way? For the book in question contains no reference whatever to the Piraeus! From cover to cover the name is not to be found in it. On p. 19 I have remarked that in Epirus 150,000 persons were enslaved by L. Æmilius Paulus. Has your reviewer, for his part, confounded the country thus named with the harbour which I, for my part, have nowhere named? TIGHE HOPKINS.

** Mr. Tighe Hopkins exemplifies my point doubly. I used a familiar phrase in order to illustrate the nature of his error with respect to the word "Kriegsbrauch," an error which he does not attempt to explain. A more careful reading of the whole sentence would have shown Mr. Hopkins that I was not occupied with his knowledge of the classics and geography, but rather with his misapprehension of a modern commonplace. YOUR REVIEWER.

Literary Gossip.

At the end of last year the analysis of books by *The Publishers' Circular* showed a total of 12,379 volumes published, an increase of 312 on the record of 1912.

Since 1909 the yearly output of books has been over 10,000. More attention to quality, and less to quantity, would, one thinks, be a sound policy from the business point of view as well as the artistic. This applies specially to fiction. The world does not want forty-eight novels a week.

The books of 1914, according to the *Circular's* analysis, would, but for the outbreak of the war, have shown an increase over any previous year. As it is, they amount to 11,537, and their average quality is described as somewhat lower than formerly, owing to "the natural reluctance on the part of publishers to place expensive works on a disturbed market, combined with the issue of numerous ephemeral works dealing with the war." Fiction shows a decrease of 392, and Biography 101; but there are increases in Science (108) and Religion (80).

We hope that the over-production which is still obvious in many departments, and which means for the most part wild speculation, may be reduced by the new conditions of life and thought due to the war. A good book, "quod et hunc in annum vivat et plures," is worth a host of inferior productions and stupid imitations of popular successes.

We took it for granted last week that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Glasgow Libraries Committee, Mr. Robert Adams, Assistant City Librarian, had been appointed to succeed Dr. Frank Barrett as City Librarian. This suggestion, however, was upset at a meeting of the Town Council. Mr. Septimus A. Pitt, Chief Librarian at Coventry, has received the appointment. Mr. Pitt, who has been Sub-Librarian at South Shields Public Library, and at Aberdeen, supervised the scheme for establishing sixteen district libraries and two reading-rooms in Glasgow between 1901 and 1908.

IT has been decided by Cardinal Bourne and Mr. A. C. Benson, as representatives of the late Monsignor Benson, that an authorized biography shall be issued covering the whole period of his life.

The representatives would be much indebted to any persons who have letters from Monsignor Benson if they would kindly lend them. They can be sent to Mr. Arthur C. Benson at the Old Lodge, Magdalene College, Cambridge; His Eminence Cardinal Bourne at Archbishop's House, Westminster, S.W.; or the publishers, Messrs. Longmans, 39, Paternoster Row, E.C., and will be returned as soon as possible to their owners. No letter will be printed without the consent of the sender.

THE "Simplified Spelling Society" is holding a meeting in Jehangier Hall, University of London, next Tuesday

afternoon. Prof. Gilbert Murray will be in the chair, and the subject, 'Educational Aspects of the Movement for Spelling Reform,' will be dealt with by five speakers.

'WHAT IS WRONG WITH GERMANY?' is the title of a new book by Mr. W. Harbutt Dawson which Messrs. Longmans hope to issue this month. The author, who has for a quarter of a century made a special study of German affairs, traces the tendencies of German national thought and policy which, in his view, have for some years been making irrevocably for war.

An interesting manuscript has just been received from South Africa, and will be published early this month by Messrs. George Allen & Unwin. It is called 'The Africander Rebellion,' and contains some disclosures of the German intrigues with the rebel element in South Africa. The author—Mr. J. K. O'Connor—has for some time past been employed by the Union Government as an Intelligence Officer in German South-West Africa, and has had exceptional opportunities for obtaining information.

The Wiltshire and Gloucestershire Standard (Cirencester) begins to-day the weekly publication of a new work by Mr. Alfred Williams, the Wiltshire poet, entitled 'Round about the Upper Thames.' Richard Jefferies, who came from the same part of Wiltshire as Mr. Williams, was chief reporter on the staff of that journal when he first sprang into distinction.

WE notice among the "Littérature Enfantine" of the Paris season translations by Mr. W. L. Hughes of 'Tom Sawyer' and 'Huck Finn.' These excellent stories should please the French boy, though a translator can hardly retain Mark Twain's charm of vivid style.

MESSRS. SCRIBNER of New York announce a new book on the Kaiser, 'The German Emperor as Shown in his Public Utterances.' This consists of a selection from the Kaiser's speeches and declarations, translated and arranged by a Professor of Princeton University.

THE death was announced on Christmas Day at Balnabard, in his native island of Colonsay, of Emeritus Professor Donald Mackinnon, who occupied the Celtic Chair in Edinburgh University for thirty-two years. He contributed many articles on Gaelic proverbs and Gaelic literature and other subjects to *The Gael*.

THE death was also announced last Saturday of Mrs. James Oliver, of Thornwood, Hawick, a Border lady who was deeply interested in the historical, antiquarian, and literary associations of the Borders. She contributed many papers to the Hawick Archaeological Society, and was author of several volumes—'Upper Teviotdale and the Scots of Buccleuch,' 'Hawick and the Borders Three Hundred Years Ago,' and a little book on the Lowland ancestors of Gladstone.

SCIENCE

The Spectroscopy of the Extreme Ultra-Violet. By Theodore Lyman. (Longmans & Co., 5s. net.)

THIS volume is one of the excellent monographs on physics edited by Sir Joseph Thomson and Dr. Frank Horton. The author is Assistant Professor of Physics at Harvard, and has probably studied in the Cavendish Laboratory. His work mainly treats of what he calls the "Schumann" region of the spectrum, which he defines as "that end of the ultra-violet spectrum where the absorption of air plays the determining rôle." Yet he does not confine himself strictly to this, since his first thirty pages deal with the spectrum lying between the wave-lengths 4,000 and 2,000, or, in other words, with the ordinary ultra-violet rays. Most of this is occupied with description of apparatus which does not call for any comment.

The second part, however, gives an interesting account of the life and work of Victor Schumann, one of the few Germans who seem to have been animated by a love of pure science. Schumann, Dr. Lyman tells us, made enough money in a business for the making of "machinery for the book industry" to be able to devote himself later to his favourite study of spectroscopy, thereby affording one more instance of the fact that it is men's hobbies rather than their businesses which count in scientific discovery.

A "grating" spectroscope and photography with specially prepared dry plates are the means employed by Dr. Lyman in the study of the Schumann rays, and he claims, if we read him rightly, that results have been obtained with these in America surpassing those which Schumann himself reached with a prism spectroscope. His description of the concave grating instrument used at Harvard University for these researches is very clear, although his specification of the Khotinski cement which he uses for sealing together brass and glass, as "a preparation resembling a superior kind of sealing-wax," hardly enables us to identify it. He argues that the dry plates, for the preparation of which he gives full instructions, are insensitive to light of longer wave-length than 3,000 ; and, moreover, that they are the only means at present employed for detecting light of the very shortest wavelength. Both these assertions appear to be well founded, and the fact is important.

The bactericidal or microbe-killing properties of the ultra-violet rays are, perhaps, those in which the general public are most interested. Any "mobile organism" placed in a drop of water and exposed to them breaks down in a few seconds, and not only dies, but also disintegrates so that its substance mingles with, or becomes dissolved in, the water. As Dr. Lyman points out, this has an important bearing on the theory that life can have come to us in the first instance from another planet, because the inter-planetary spaces must be effectively and continually

sterilized if light of the proper wavelength be emitted by the sun. He decides that this condition is fulfilled if the sun-spots are accompanied by jets of burning hydrogen, and the fact is destructive of a good many cosmic hypotheses. The book is equipped with all necessary tables and a good bibliography of Schumann's original papers, while we are glad to see that Dr. Lyman fully acknowledges in it his obligations to Dr. Baly's "Spectroscopy," which covers a part, but not the whole, of the same field.

Geology of To-day : a Popular Introduction in Simple Language. By J. W. Gregory. (Seeley & Service, 5s. net.)

PROF. GREGORY has written a very attractive introduction to the principles of geology, in which his special aim has been to set the science before the reader in its latest aspect, to present a view of geology as seen to-day by a vigorous worker and watchful observer. It is not usually an easy matter to make the ordinary reader understand the advanced opinions of scientific men, and in this respect the author is to be congratulated on his success. He talks, in language easily understood, about the different forms of the nebular theory and the possible origin of the earth ; and he tells us why it has been thought that our globe is for the most part a huge ball of nickel-bearing iron, distinguished by some geologists as the barysphere, and identified by our author with the geite of the late Prof. Milne. Such a metallic core may be crusted over by a thin shell of radioactive rocks, forming the lithosphere ; and it is the outer rind of this lithosphere that is the proper field of the geologist's study. Probably the lower part of the rocky sphere is more or less plastic, forming what has been called the zone of flexure or of flow. Here the matter may be retained in a state of solidity only by the pressure that prevents the expansion necessary for liquidity, the particles gliding over each other without losing coherence, and on such a mobile foundation the mountain mass or the crustal block may be supported in isostatic equilibrium. Some account is here given of survey-work in India, with reference to the way in which the load of the Himalayas is, perhaps, upheld and attention is directed to the observations of Mr. Hayford on isostatic compensation in the United States.

Volcanic eruptions naturally come in for rather lengthy treatment. With regard to the views of Brun of Geneva, who startled us some time ago by his suggestion of anhydrous outbursts, the author has been able at the last moment to add a note explaining that these views have been refuted, so far at least as Kilauea is concerned, by the work of Messrs. Day and Shepherd of the Geological Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution. These physicists found water plentifully emitted from the lava, and satisfied themselves that this water was truly magmatic or plutonic.

On the subject of igneous rocks Prof. Gregory fairly discusses the rival views

which seek to explain the origin of diverse types by the processes known as "differentiation" and "assimilation." The order of the solidification of the minerals in a rock like granite, assumed to have been molten, does not agree usually with what might have been inferred from their relative fusibility, and the author shows clearly how this difficulty is now simply solved. The passage of sedimentary rocks into foliated schists and gneiss is followed step by step, but the further metamorphism into plutonic rocks is regarded as improbable.

In telling the story of ancient life upon the earth Prof. Gregory speaks as an advanced evolutionist, and goes back to the hypothetical "probobion," the earliest living thing. Among the figures of fossils we find a representation of the great dinosaur from East Africa called *Gigantosaurus*, which, if we may judge from the thigh-bone, must have surpassed in size the famous *Diplodocus*. Advancing at last to the geological history of Man, we have a comprehensive chapter, including, of course, some account of the Sub-crag flints and the Piltdown skull.

Enough has been said to show the great interest of Prof. Gregory's work. It is noteworthy as being popular in the best sense of the term, yet possessing sufficient substance to render it serviceable in many ways to the mature student.

SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 17.—Sir Hercules Read, V.P., in the chair.

Mr. G. E. Jeffery, Local Secretary for Cyprus, communicated a paper on "Rock-cutting and Tomb Architecture in Cyprus." The paper dealt first with the quarries and quarry tools of ancient Cyprus, and showed that similar tooling and methods of work were adopted in the rock-cut tombs. The tombs considered were (1) caves and chambers of the Bronze Age ; (2) Greco-Phoenician rock-hewn chambers and built tombs ; (3) Greco-Roman built tombs and rock-hewn "kokins," i.e., long, narrow recesses to take the coffin ; and (4) Byzantine rock-hewn chambers, which were frequently situated in quarries. Among examples of these various tombs to which the author drew attention were the corbel-vaulted tomb at Larnaca ; the tomb at Yamassos, with carpentry imitated in stone ; the tomb in New Paphos, with Doric façades ; the "Annunciation Chapel" at Larnaca ; the "Prison of St. Catharine" near Famagusta ; and the rock-hewn chapel of Acheiroipetou at Lampousa.

Prof. J. L. Myres read a note on "The 'Prison of St. Catharine' at Salamis, in Cyprus. This is an ancient-built tomb, partly below ground, with barrel-vaulted chamber, lateral doorway with stone portcullis, and side chamber cut in one block of stone, and roofed with another. Ohnefalsch-Richter's publication in *Journ. of Hellenic Studies*, 1883, is now supplemented by observations and trenching in 1913. The descent to the doorway has been cleared and protected ; the modern entrance, through a breach in the north wall, has been freed from obstructions ; and some architectural features have been revealed by dissection of the surface soil. The profile of the lower part of the superstructure has been recovered. The date of the monument is still not certain, but the probability increases that it is not early, and the two rock-hewn chamber-tombs immediately adjacent are certainly late Roman."

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- MON. Aristotelian, 4.—"Berkeley's Doctrine of Esse," Prof. C. Lloyd Morgan.
 TUES. Royal Institution, 3.—"Heat in the Home," Prof. C. V. Boys.
 — Juvenile Lecture.
 WED. Geological, 8.—"The Silurian Inlier of Usk," Mr. C. I. Gardner ;
 — "Some Observations on Cone-in-Cone structure and their
 Relation to its Origin," Mr. S. R. Basellhurst.
 — Viking, 8.30.—"Water-Colour Sketches of Iceland," Mrs. Barbara Bowring.
 THURS. Royal Institution, 3.—"Electricity in the Home," Prof. C. V. Boys.
 — Juvenile Lecture.
 FRI. Astronomical, 5.
 — Physical, 8.—Dr. W. A. Craigie's Dictionary Report.
 SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—"Light in the Home," Prof. C. V. Boys.
 — Juvenile Lecture.

FINE ARTS

Grinling Gibbons and the Woodwork of his Age (1648-1720). By H. Avray Tipping. ('Country Life' Office, ll. 5s. net.)

We are growing accustomed to the splendid photographic illustrations of the 'Country Life' Library. Photography is an element in bookmaking which has, on the one hand, multiplied the number of unnecessary books; on the other, preserved records of perishable works of art, bringing them within the knowledge of those who cannot study the originals. The book-lover, however, is not easily reconciled to the glazed paper apparently needed for the reproduction of photographs, a paper unpleasant to the senses of touch, sight, and smell: such is the paper of this otherwise admirably produced book.

It is more than a collection of beautiful photographs; it is a complete and adequate monograph on the work of a master of English wood-carving and his contemporaries. The first quarter of the book is a luminous review of the condition of art, particularly of architectural wood-work, about the time of the Restoration, when the Renaissance established itself in England. The grand tour was not confined to men of position and affluence like Evelyn. Evelyn himself in his Diary speaks of students of art, with a view to practising themselves, finding means to visit Italy in order to learn at first hand from the ruins of the antique world, and from the new art of Italy. An incident in the growth of new ideas and conditions at home was the rise of the joiner, who supplies the author with a title for his first chapter. In the process of specialization a broad distinction arose between those who used wood simply and constructively, and those who used it for elaborate details and small furniture; henceforward the carpenter was nominally confined to structural work, and the joiner was to make the furniture, fixed or movable.

At this time of change no man played a more important part than Inigo Jones, whose

"influence not only chastened our architecture, but laid the foundations of the splendid joinery that distinguished the reigns of the later Stuarts.... He reshaped the mode of architectural expression, and altered the ethics of building and decorating."

The sudden reversion to classical ideals represents a vital and interesting change in the history of art in England, though the results were not so amazing as in Italy, or so enduring as in France. As a nation we have in art always been susceptible to foreign influences, and in recording these the author does well to show that we have never been content with copying, for our work has always shown a strong native flavour:

"What is certainly true is that the Latin races, headed by the Italian and French, have at times been possessed of a far more

audacious artistic originality, and that the spirit of magnificence of scale and exquisiteness of manner have only been strong with us in proportion as we have drawn our inspiration from them."

A careful historical work like this on one of the three great figures of the English Renaissance is a considerable aid to the understanding and appreciation of the time. The primary purpose of Mr. Tipping's work is, however, a record of the master carver's individual achievements; he touches upon the link between Inigo Jones and Gibbons, and the essential difference of outlook between them. The work of Gibbons was made possible by Jones, from whom he learnt the rules governing the new architecture; yet his genius was all his own, a thing apart, of as high an order as that of Jones or Wren. It is curious to reflect how unlike were the aims of the architect and the craftsman, yet how the work of the latter supplemented and completed that of the former.

The ideal of Grinling Gibbons was the exact imitation of natural forms:

"The more the material in which he wrought lost its own character and took over that of the object it simulated, the greater the artistic triumph."

It is the irony of fate that that for which he was most admired by his contemporaries is held, in spite of the recognition of his great achievements, as reprehensible by posterity.

All that is to be discovered of his parentage and early life and surroundings is here admirably traced. Whether he was English born or not, his early years in Holland left a deep impression upon him, and during his long life the subjects he introduced into his carving cover the entire ground of the Dutch School of still-life painters.

Evelyn's discovery of the young carver working in a cottage near Deptford, and the subsequent introduction to Charles II., were the means to afford him early and notable employment. The description of his work at St. Paul's, under Wren, is compiled from the careful accounts in the Cathedral Library kept during the progress of the building.

Perhaps the most impressive feature of this book is the vast amount of authentic work done by Gibbons in his long and strenuous life—work that never falls below the level of the most consummate craftsmanship, and seldom repeats a design. Gibbons was busy during five reigns, and was employed at the royal palaces, the universities, and at a number of great country mansions, as well as at the rebuilding of the City churches after the Fire.

The description of contemporary work in London shows how strong was his influence over fellow-craftsmen. His son and grandson followed his calling, but none reached his level, and the work of this brief period is rightly known by his name. The story of the dispersal and loss of much that he did at St. Paul's, at Winchester, and elsewhere is melancholy, and reflects little credit upon the taste of a later age.

DRAMA

'DAVID COPPERFIELD' AT HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

MR. LOUIS N. PARKER has not achieved the impossible. In other words, he has not compressed 'David Copperfield' into a three hours' entertainment without coming pretty near disaster. To anybody unacquainted with the novel the play would probably be merely incomprehensible; the adapter makes allusions to characters and events for which no place can be found on the stage, and which, to our mind, it would have been better to ignore. That the matter has been dealt with as well as the conditions imposed allowed may be granted, and we have only one alternative to propose—that if ever again such a dramatization is attempted, it should be treated like a Wagnerian 'Ring.' It is the possibilities inherent in this idea which the producers and exponents at His Majesty's have brought home to us, and which we have in mind in what follows.

First, such a course would prevent Sir Herbert Tree from attempting to duplicate the parts of Micawber and Peggotty, leaving him free, we hope, to develop the part of the former, along the lines he at present only sketches. Occasionally we got the real flavour of the man's inimitable flamboyancy, only to lose it again in items of personal byplay; these provoked their due laughter, but dulled the impression of the real character.

Mr. Deering Wells's Traddles was the character next in order whose development we most wished for. His rather jerky utterance appeared to have a naturalness about it—not to be the outcome, as in other cases, of a need to get the thing over by 11 p.m. If Mr. Charles Quartermaine had had time to impregnate his words with unctuous sliminess, he would have been a notable Uriah Heep. Mr. Gayer Mackay's Littimer likewise suffered, though in a less degree. Mr. Basil Gill's Steerforth would not have swept the Em'ly of our imagination from her bearings, though we grant it was enough for Jessie Winter's impersonation. Agnes Thomas's Betsey Trotwood lacked something of decisiveness; a more severe make-up would have given her a better chance of showing how those she cared for could unmask her innate sweetness of disposition. In fact, Mr. Frederick Ross in the part of Ham was the one exponent whose natural acting assisted his physical gifts for the part. Mr. Owen Nares as Copperfield had no chance to pass from boyhood to manhood. He attempted, we think, something of a more staid maturity in the last act, but his loss of youthful freshness only suggested coming stiltedness.

The impression left is really more that of the best kinematograph we have yet seen than of a play, especially in view of Mr. Joseph Harker's fine scenic effects.

Next week we shall deal with other Christmas entertainments.

MUSIC

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

MESSRS. LENGNICK & CO.
Four Compositions for Pianoforte. By Paul Kilburn. 2s. net each.—In the first two numbers—'Legend' and 'Birthday Ode'—simple and melodious in the old sense of the term, there are one or two hints that the composer is not ignorant of modern changes. The title of No. 3, 'Tones Old and New,' offers further proof of this. There is no attempt to present the old tones in stiff and cold style, or to exaggerate the modernity of the new. The change to the key of the mediant is fresh and pleasant; and in this section old tones prevail. The influence of Grieg is occasionally felt. Surely, by the way, ♪ double sharp in the first bar of p. 5 would be more reasonable than ♫ natural, and prevent a momentary hesitation in players who knew the harmonic meaning of the note sounded. For the rest, the music is clever and attractive. No. 4, 'Waltz Study,' opens with ordinary harmonies, and a melody in which there are slight Schubertian touches. Players, however, soon find one hand in triple, the other in duple time, and other mixed measures. All through the piece the melodic element continues. The last two numbers seem to indicate that the composer intends to add the new to the old, and not, like some ultra-modern composers, to create, metaphorically, a new heaven and a new earth.

MESSRS. NOVELLO.

Festival March. By Granville Bantock. Arranged for Pianoforte Solo by the Composer. 2s. net.—The music is broad, impressive, and British in its straightforward character. There are signs of masterly writing in it, but nothing laboured. It ends with a patriotic spirited chorus (*ad lib.*). In the melody there is reference to 'Rule, Britannia.' This piece would be effective if arranged as a pianoforte duet. As a solo some players might find it, if not exactly difficult, somewhat troublesome.

English Folk Chanteys. Collected by Cecil J. Sharp. (Simpkin & Marshall, 5s. net.)—Mr. Sharp and others have done much to rescue folk-songs from oblivion. These have been handed down from generation to generation. The idea of collecting and publishing them is modern, and it has often been found difficult to decide which of different versions of the same tune is the oldest; and even the oldest may not be always the best. The author has now devoted his attention to sailors' chanteys, and these he believes are "the last of the labour songs to survive in this country." He says truly that in bygone days there must have been an enormous number of such songs "associated with every rhythmical form of manual labour." Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser in her 'Songs of the Hebrides' says that in those islands "labour and song went hand in hand," and she gives specimens of songs associated with "spinning, waulking, churning, and rowing."

The 150 songs in the present collection were taken down from the lips of old retired sailors in different parts of the country, and in each case Mr. Sharp had "definite evidence that they were used within living memory as working-songs on board ship."

To the chanteys Mr. Sharp has added pianoforte accompaniments, and he also gives notes concerning the various numbers, their source, and other interesting details.

Musical Gossip.

MR. KENNERLEY RUMFORD was to have sung in 'The Messiah' at the Royal Albert Hall yesterday. He was in London for a few days at Christmas, but was called back to the front, where he has his own motor ambulance.

Two new operas by Mascagni and Leoncavallo are to be produced in America. The work of the former is entitled 'L'Allo della,' that of the latter 'Candidata.'

THE performance of Coleridge-Taylor's 'Hiawatha' by the Royal Choral Society will take place on Saturday afternoon, February 6th, instead of January 28th, as originally announced. Miss Agnes Nicholls, Mr. John Coates, and Mr. George Parker are to be the soloists.

SIR HENRY J. WOOD usually gives a concert at Queen's Hall on the 1st of January. This year, however, it is to take place a day later, viz., this afternoon. The programme consists of short and familiar pieces, among which are the 'William Tell' and 'Tannhäuser' Overtures, the 'Peer Gynt' Suite, and Tchaikowsky's '1812.'

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN. Concert, 3.30, Royal Albert Hall.
Munday Concert Society, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
WED. London Trio, 3.30, Eolian Hall.
FRI. Bach's Christmas Oratorio (Parts 1, 5, and 6), 8. St. Anne's Church, Soho.
SAT. Chappell Ballad Concert, 3.30, Queen's Hall.

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